



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes, June 2010

### VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

### SPY POND COMMITTEE

#### JUNE 8, 2010 MEETING

accepted as submitted, Jan. 2011

#### Town Hall Annex, First Floor

**In attendance:** Brad Barber, Peter Belknap, Judi Berman, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Harriet Noyes, Pete Rademacher, Steve Ricci, Ron Rosenbaum, Dick Smith.

**Facilitator:** Steve Ricci

**Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

**Next meetings:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 14, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7. Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

#### New Flood Maps:

- Mike Rademacher reported on the new FEMA flood maps. FEMA apparently never checked actual elevations and worked from old maps which were hard to read and didn't reflect recent construction. The Town drew a more realistic map, using elevation 4.2, which is the elevation at the outflow structure.
- The Town also did a hydrological study, which determined that the 100-year storm would raise the pond level by 2 feet. The March storm raised it to 6.2, which represented more than 2 feet because the pre-storm level was below 4.2 due to work at the outflow. (The study shows that if the pond didn't have an outlet, it could rise to a maximum level of 7.)
- FEMA appears ready to accept the Town-determined flood boundary without assigning an elevation (but the Town will know it is 4.2). Decision expected within 3 months. The Town will notify those affected; apparently only a few properties, including the Boys & Girls Club and the Elks, will need to add flood insurance.

#### Other matters:

- **Modus operandi:** Jacob suggested that we organize each meeting around a specific topic; someone should gather and present information on it, for a management plan for the pond. We should gather the knowledge of individuals on the committee, and other relevant items like the goals for Spy Pond adopted by Town Meeting, warrant articles, studies, etc. Elizabeth has started on such a project but has barely scratched the surface. Currently there are no studies being done on the pond -- could the High School science program do any?
- Town Meeting approved \$15,000 for the **waterbodies fund**. How much is in it now?
- The Fin Com wants information on all 7 waterbodies – what is needed, what was done. The Open Space Committee is advocating for more **planning for waterbodies**. DPW has management responsibility; Steve and Joey will work with them.
- **Weed treatment** in Spy Pond was done on June 1. Pond water should not be used for irrigation for 90 days (until Sept. 1).

- **Waterfowl:** Swans nesting in the Kelwyn Manor reeds have 3 cygnets; those near the condos have none. A mallard family with 9 ducklings has been seen. Jacob has seen 4 goslings; 58 goose eggs were added, the lowest number found since adding began.
- **Phragmites:** Brad has surveyed the pond and reported to the Con Com for the NOI for the next treatment, on land. The Kelwyn Manor Association already has the NOI for its park. The cost will probably be comparable with last year's, so more fundraising will be needed.
- A **sign** is needed at the boat ramp with HP and speed restrictions. Steve will ask Park & Rec.